



**Fundraising for Team Canada to attend the 2019 Winter Deaflympics**  
*Thirty-five Deaf and hard of hearing athletes are headed to Italy*

**Montreal, September 9, 2019** - Thirty-five (35) Deaf and hard of hearing athletes will compete at the 19<sup>th</sup> Winter Deaflympics in Italy from December 12-21, 2019. In order to fundraise \$25,000 to cover Team Canada's expenses at the Games, the Canadian Deaf Sports Association (CDSA) is appealing to the generosity of the public.

Canada has participated at the Winter Deaflympics since 1959, defending its colours in high performance sports in a friendly atmosphere. This year, Team Canada will compete in four of the six sports presented at the Games: curling, ice hockey, alpine skiing and snowboarding. Three members of the Kyte family will accompany Team Canada: Johnny, Sean and Thomas. The first Deaf hockey player to have played in the NHL, Jim Kyte is also the official spokesperson for the CDSA.

The 2019 Winter Deaflympics will gather 500 to 600 athletes from 25 countries in the Italian regions of Valtellina and Valchiavenna. The participation costs for these Games are more than \$4,750 per athlete, so the CDSA's fundraising aims to cover a part of these costs related to registration fees, transportation, accommodation, meals and team uniforms. To support Team Canada in reaching the podium, please visit **[www.cdsa-deaflympics.ca](http://www.cdsa-deaflympics.ca)**.

**About the Deaflympics**

Sanctioned by the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD) and recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the Winter Deaflympics have been taking place since 1949. The Deaflympics give the opportunity to Deaf and hard of hearing athletes the opportunity to compete on the international stage in high performance sports adapted to their specific needs. Six sports are included: alpine skiing, cross country skiing, chess, curling, ice hockey and snowboarding.

**About the Canadian Deaf Sports Association**

The CDSA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the development of high-performance Deaf and hard of hearing athletes. Through direct financial support, the CDSA helps athletes participate in international sport events sanctioned by the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf and the Pan American Sports Committee for the Deaf.

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**Contact**

Cynthia Benoit, Sponsorship & Donations Coordinator  
cynthia.benoit@assc-cdsa.com  
819-303-0498